

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 068109

ATTN: JOHN L. MANNIELLO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IT:TGEN;OTRA

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY IMPORT OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT INTO ITALY

1. THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS WILL PERFORM FOR SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC., ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ON THEIR ANTENNA-RECEIVER SYSTEM BEING INSTALLED IN ITALY A G/T (SYSTEM GAIN TO SYSTEM NOISE TEMPERATURE) RATIO MEASUREMENT ON A SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC., MANUFACTURED ANTENNA AND RECEIVER. THE ANTENNA-RECEIVER SYSTEM IS PART OF A SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS GROUND STATION BEING INSTALLED AT THE TELESPAZIO FUCINO EARTH STATION ABOUT 16 KILOMETERS FROM AVEZZANO IN ITALY. NBS UNDERSTANDS THE FUCINO EARTH STATION IS ABOUT 130 KILOMETERS EAST OF ROME. SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC., IS THE CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING THE 10-METER ANTENNA AND THE INITIAL STAGES OF AMPLIFICATION INCLUDING THE CRYOGENIC PARAMETRIC AMPLIFIER. THE G/T RATIO MEASUREMENT IS A "FIGURE OF MERIT" FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE GROUND STATION AND WILL PROVIDE BOTH SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC., AND THE ITALIAN GENERAL CONTRACTOR A MEANS OF ASCERTAINING HOW WELL THE SATELLITE GROUND STATION MEETS ITS DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS.

2. NBS IS OBLIGED TO MAINTAIN A STRICT SCHEDULE TO FIT INTO THE MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS TO GET THE SATELLITE GROUND
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STATION ON THE AIR. THIS FACILITY TAKES ABOUT THREE AND A HALF

MILLION DOLLARS TO BUILD AND IS QUITE COMPLEX WITH MANY INTERFACING ASPECTS. NBS HAS BEEN ASKED TO PERFORM ITS MEASUREMENTS DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 14 - 18. TO ACHIEVE THIS SCHEDULE, TWO NBS STAFF MEMBERS, DR. DAVID F. WAIT AND JOHN P. WAKEFIELD, WILL LEAVE BOULDER, COLORADO, IN THE MORNING OF APRIL 10. WHEN THEIR TASK IS COMPLETED THEY WILL RETURN BY WAY OF FRANCE AND ENGLAND. THEIR WIVES EXPECT TO ACCOMPANY THEM ON THIS TRIP.

3. THE INSTRUMENTATION REQUIRED TO PERFORM THIS MEASUREMENT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED BY NBS ESPECIALLY TO ACCOMMODATE THIS AND OTHER SIMILAR MEASUREMENTS. NBS ESTIMATES THE TOTAL INVESTMENT IN THIS INSTRUMENTATION IS ABOUT DOLS 160,000.00 AND THAT THE HARDWARE REPLACEMENT COST FOR IT IS APPROXIMATELY DOLS 85,000.00. OT SHIP NBS MEASUREMENT SYSTEM FOR TEMPORARY IMPORTATION INTO ITALY IT WILL BE DISASSEMBLED AND PACKED IN FOUR CRATES. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF EQUIPMENT NBS ANTICIPATES WILL MAKE THE TRIP TO ITALY:.

4. CRATE I- THIS INSTRUMENTATION IS COLLECTED IN ONE CHASSIS NOVA MINICOMPUTER MODEL 1200 SERIAL NO. AO 2054 471 02, NBS SERIAL NO. 142382; DANA DIGITAL VOLTMETER MODEL 5800 SERIAL NO. 104084, NBS SERIAL NO. 142408; ONE TRANSFORMER AND THE INTERFACING HARDWARE WIRING. CRATE II - THIS IS THE TELETYPE FOR OPERATING THE MINICOMPUTER TEXAS INSTRUMENT TELETYPE MODEL 733ASR SERIAL NO. 16661, NBS SERIAL NO. 144509; TEXAS INSTRUMENT CASSETTE MODULE FOR THE 733ASR SERIAL NO. 006715. CRATE III AND IV - NBS CANNOT GUESS AT THIS MOMENT HOW THE REMAINDER OF THESE ITEMS WILL BE SPLIT. NBS TYPE II POWER BRIDGE SERIAL NO. 264; ISOTHERMAL ENCLOSURE WITH AN HP BOLOMETER. A SPECIALIZED CHASSIS ENTITLED "IF UNIT" THAT IS AN NBS DESIGNED UNIT TO CONDITION THE RF SIGNAL TO BE USED IN THE MEASUREMENT PROCESS. IT CONTAINS AMPLIFIERS, ATTENUATORS, ELECTRONIC SWITCHES, ETC. A CAMERA WILL BE INCLUDED TO PHOTOGRAPHICALLY RECORD NBS PARTICIPATION IN THIS EFFORT. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CARRY SPARE PAPER FOR THE TELETYPE AND A PAPER CUTTER FOR SHAPING IT. THE TELETYPE ALSO HAS SPARE CASSETTES FOR DATA AND PROGRAM RECORDING. FOR SAFETY NBS PLANS TO CARRY A SPARE DANA DIGITAL VOLTMETER, MODEL 5800-S-2269 SERIAL NO. 103658 NBS SERIAL NO. 14356. ONE TOOL BOX WITH TOOLS NEEDED TO ASSEMBLE AND MAINTAIN NBS EQUIPMENT.

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5. ADDITIONAL SELECTED SPARE COMPONENTS, POWER CORDS, AND COAXIAL TRANSMISSION LINES WILL BE TAKEN; HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME NBS IS NOT CERTAIN EXACTLY WHAT COMPONENTS ARE NEEDED. ALL THE EQUIPMENT THAT NBS STAFF WILL TAKE IS THE PROPERTY OF THE U.S.G. AND IS INCLUDED IN THE NBS INVENTORY. NBS, STAFF, THEREFORE, MUST RETURN WITH ALL OF IT.

6. SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC., HAS OFFERED TO HELP NBS WITH CUSTOMS

ARRANGEMENTS IN ROME, ITALY. SUBJECT TO USEMB CONCURRENCE NBS WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR OFFER. NBS THEN MUST SHIP THE EQUIPMENT BY AIR FREIGHT A WEEK AHEAD OF NEED TO TELESPIAZIO, 00198 ROMA - CORSO D'ITALIA, 43, AND THE SHIPPING CONTAINERS SHOULD BE MARKED "INBOUND CUSTOMS CLEARANCE, ROME, ITALY -- CLEAR THROUGH CUSTOMS BROKER, MR. JACKY MADER, FIUMICINO AIRPORT, ROME, ITALY". NBS WILL CONTACT THEM AND PROVIDE THE FLIGHT NUMBER AND AIR BILL NUMBER.

7. NBS STAFF WILL BE STAYING AT HOTEL PRINCIPE, AVEZZANO, ITALY.

8. NBS WOULD APPRECIATE USEMB PROVIDING DOCUMENTS, SUCH AS APPLICABLE WORDING OF FLORENCE AGREEMENT, COVERING TEMPORARY IMPORT INTO ITALY OF SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT AND ANY ADVICE THAT SHOULD BE HELPFUL TO NBS IN GETTING THE EQUIPMENT INTO AND OUT OF ITALY AND ALSO ANY GUIDANCE THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE NBS STAFF. KISSINGER

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